AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace lines 14-20, page 4 with the following amended paragraphs:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1A-1B is an alignment of the nucleotide sequence of the human *c-maf* (SEQ ID NO:1) coding region with the mouse *c-maf* (SEQ ID NO:3) coding region. Nucleotide differences between the two sequences are boxed.

Figure 2 is an alignment of the amino acid sequence of the human c-Maf protein (SEQ ID NO:2) with the mouse c-Maf protein (SEQ ID NO:4). Amino acid differences between the two sequences are boxed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, lines 30-37 with the following amended paragraph:

As used herein, the term "human c-Maf" is intended to encompass proteins that share the distinguishing structural and functional features (described further herein) of the human c-Maf protein encoded by the Nh2I/XbaI insert of plasmid pHu-c-Maf, which was deposited under the provisions of the Budapest Treaty with the American Type Tissue Culture Collection (ATCC), ~~Rockville, Maryland~~ P.O. Box 1549, Manassas, VA, 20108, on February 24, 1998 and assigned ATCC Acession No. 98671, and having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, including the amino acid residues unique to human c-Maf (as compared to mouse c-Maf), which are boxed in Figure 2.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 26, through page 10, lines 1-6 with the following amended paragraph:

One aspect of the invention pertains to isolated nucleic acid molecules that encode human c-Maf. An approximately 4.2 kilobase fragment of DNA encoding human c-Maf has been isolated from a genomic DNA library and subcloned into the plasmid pBluescriptKS/II. E. coli bacteria carrying this plasmid, referred to as pHu-c-Maf, have been deposited under the provisions of the Budapest Treaty with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), ~~Rockville, MD,~~ P.O. Box 1549, Manassas, VA, 20108, on February 24, 1998 and assigned ATCC Accession No. 98671. This plasmid was constructed by insertion of a ~ 4.2 kb NheI fragment encompassing the human c-Maf coding region into the compatible XbaI site of the plasmid vector, to thereby create a ~4.2 kb NheI/XbaI insert that encodes human c-Maf. It should be noted that upon ligation of the NheI fragment into the XbaI site, these restriction sites are not regenerated and, thus, to excise the fragment from the plasmid, it is necessary to use adjacent restriction sites within the pBluescript polylinker. The nucleotide sequence of the human c-Maf coding region, and corresponding predicted amino acid sequence, are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 1 and 2, respectively. This nucleotide sequence, and predicted amino acid sequence, of human c-Maf were obtained by sequencing of the NheI/XbaI insert of the pHu-c-Maf plasmid using standard sequencing methods. Primers for sequencing are designed based on the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1. Isolation and characterization of the human c-Maf-encoding DNA is described further in the Example.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.121(d)

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1A-1B and Figure 2 to include sequence identifiers.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

Annotated sheet showing changes